



Photo by Keith Pederson  
2nd Lts. Jonathan and Rose Richeson bring Dozer, their three-month-old Jack Russell terrier, to Capt., Dr., Laura Embry, base veterinarian, for an examination and vaccination at the Kirtland AFB veterinary clinic. Dr. Beth Lipton and Captain Embry service patients at the clinic which is open 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday. The clinic is open for product sales and appointments on Fridays, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Services provided for dogs and cats include vaccinations, preventative medicine, outpatient sick call, blood analysis and radiology. Surgical procedures are also offered. For information or appointments, call 846-4276 or 846-4280.

# How to puppy-proof your home

## FROM THE KIRTLAND AFB VETERINARY CLINIC

If anything is in reach, your puppy will sniff, chew, and probably play with it. So to protect your puppy in her new environment, and to safeguard your belongings, puppy-proof your house.

### Kitchens and bathrooms

- ★ Use childproof latches to keep curious muzzles from prying open cabinets
- ★ Keep medications, cleaners, chemicals, and laundry supplies on high shelves
- ★ Keep foods out of reach (even if the food isn't harmful, the wrapper could be. And some foods, like chocolate, can be fatal to dogs)
- ★ Keep trash cans covered or inside a latched cabinet
- ★ Keep toilet lids closed to prevent drowning

### Living/family room

- ★ Place dangling wires from lamps, VCRs, stereos, TVs, and phones up and out of chewing reach
- ★ Keep kids' toys put away
- ★ Move plants out of reach (some houseplants are

- poisonous to animals)
- ★ Check all those places where your vacuum cleaner doesn't fit, but your puppy does, for dangerous items, Eke coins and pens
  - ★ Put away all sewing and craft notions, especially needles and thread
  - ★ Make sure all heating and air vents have a cover

### Garage

- ★ Move all chemicals to high shelves or behind secure doors
- ★ Clean up all antifreeze from the floor and driveway—most antifreezes can be lethal to a puppy
- ★ Keep fishhooks and other sharp objects and tools out of reach

### Bedrooms

- ★ Keep laundry and shoes behind closed doors (drawstrings and buttons can cause major problems)
- ★ Keep any medications, lotions, or cosmetics off accessible surfaces (like the bedside table which can be reached by jumping on the bed)
- ★ Move wires out of reach of chewing
- ★ And look out for paws, noses, and tails when you shut doors behind you or scoot chairs.

# Away she goes! MDA announces successful flight

The Missile Defense Agency announced the completion of a successful flight test in the continuing development of the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense Program, the sea-based element of the Ballistic Missile Defense System. Capt. Mark Anderson and 1st Lt. Chris Kelnhofer, Space and Missile Systems Center, Detachment 12 Rocket Systems Launch Program, managed the target launch from Sandia National Laboratory's Kauai Test Facility Launch Operations Building. Flight Mission-6 involved the detection and tracking of a Missile Defense Agency Targets and Countermeasures Aries medium-range target missile launched from the Pacific Missile Range Facility, Kauai, Hawaii. Approximately two minutes after target launch, a developmental Standard Missile-3 was launched from the Aegis Ballistic Missile Defense cruiser the USS Lake Erie. Approximately two minutes later the SM-3 successfully intercepted the target missile with "hit to kill" technology, using only the force of the direct collision to destroy the target.

For Captain Anderson and Lieutenant Kelnhofer, the launch campaign consisted of being on site for three weeks before the launch operations to ensure the target missile was assembled, prepared for launch and accepted for flight. However, there is more than just three weeks worth of work to prepare a launch of this magnitude. It takes months preparing a target missile at Orbital Science Corporation and having Northrop Grumman complete Independent Verification and Validation and Mission Assurance processes. The Space and Missile Systems Center, Detachment 12 Rocket Systems Launch Program manages deactivated ICBM assets for Missile Defense Agency target missiles and small launch vehicles for cost effective launch services.

# 2 cops named best in AFMC

Two Airmen in the 377th Security Forces Squadron were selected for recognition in the Air Force Materiel Command Individual Security Forces Award for 2003. The award winners are:

**Tech. Sgt. Donovan Holdway**, 377th Security Forces Squadron, Outstanding Security Forces Support Staff NCO Award.

**Airman 1st Class Lisa DeWispelaere**, 377th Security Forces Squadron, Outstanding Security Forces Flight Level Airman Award. Airman De Wispelaere was recently transferred to Korea.

RIGHT-Tech. Sgt. Donovan Holdway, 377th Security Forces Squadron, Outstanding Security Forces Support Staff NCO Award



# AFRL wins Air Force award

Ms. Charlotte Gerhart of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Space Vehicles Directorate has won the Air Force Junior Civilian Engineer Award for her work on the VibroAcoustic Launch Protection Experiment. Ms. Gerhart lead an 8-person team to launch VALPE in November 2002 to demonstrate advanced vibration and acoustic isolation technologies to significantly reduce satellite design requirements and the number of on-orbit satellite failures. Her efforts will save the Air Force hundreds of millions of dollars over the next decade. Ms. Gerhart also led many other advanced technology efforts for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Administration and the Air Force Space and Missile System Center, such as next-generation on-orbit docking systems and satellite thermal management.



Ms. Charlotte Gerhart

# AFIA acquisition inspector retires

Lt. Col. Dale R. Balmer has served as an acquisition inspector and Operations Support Division chief, since assigned to the Air Force Inspection Agency in June 1998, retired from the Air Force recently. Colonel Balmer's military service spans four decades beginning in 1978 when he began his career as an Aircraft Maintenance Officer. Colonel Balmer has served for more than 25. Colonel Balmer was presented the U.S. flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol and to the great surprise of the life-long fan of the Los Angeles Dodgers, it was also flown over Dodger Stadium. Colonel Balmer is married to the former Ms. Jolinda Heaberlin and they have four children: Elizabeth, Robert, Rich and Stephanie, a son-in-law Mr. Chris Latta and two wonderful grandchildren: Millie and Hannah. Colonel Balmer and his wife plan to remain in the Albuquerque area following retirement.



Lt. Col. Dale R. Balmer



## Free child booster car seats

Evenflo Rightfit Booster Car Seats are available at no cost to all TEAM KIRTLAND members and their family. The only requirements are that

- ★ the vehicle have a proper headrest
- ★ have a lap and shoulder belt system, and
- ★ the child weighs between 40 and 80 pounds.

Make an appointment with the Family Support Center by calling 846-0741 and ask for Diane or Max.

## Super Bowl party at the Daily Grind!

Join the staff at the Daily Grind Feb. 1, 4:25 p.m. for the Super Bowl game on big-screen TV. Free munchies and beverages!